

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108

AREA	FORM NO.
	551



own Lexington
Address 130 Pleasant Street
Historic Name David Wellington Homestead;
1775 House"

Use: Present school
Original residential

DESCRIPTION:

Date c. 1805

Source stylistic analysis

Style Federal

Architect _____

Exterior wall fabric vinyl siding

Outbuildings none

Major alterations (with dates) two-story
rear ell; one-story wings on both ends of
original house; one-story ell at rear

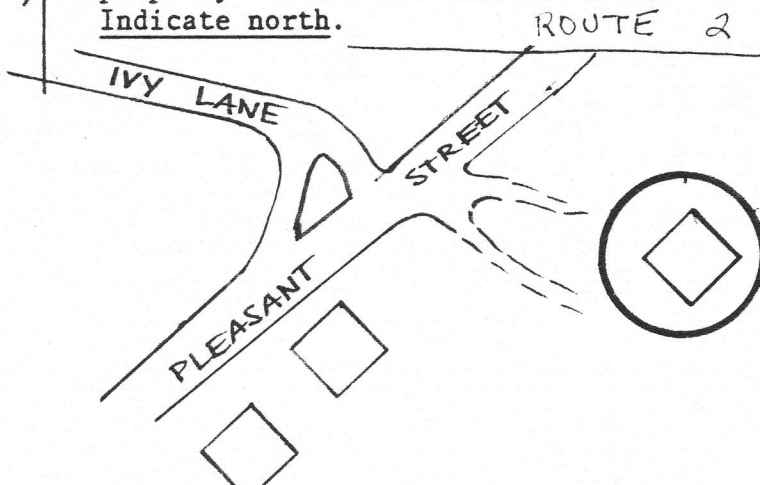
Moved _____ Date _____

Approx. acreage 2.1 A.

Setting Near 1960s residential development
but isolated at the end of an exit ramp of
and next to a major six-lane highway.

SKETCH MAP

Show property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection. Indicate north.



Recorded by Nancy S. Seasholes

Organization Lexington Historical Commission

Date March, 1984

(Staple additional sheets here)

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.)

Very little remains of either the original setting or exterior finishes of this early Federal brick-ended farmhouse. Nonetheless, its style is still recognizable in its five-bay wide, two-bay deep profile; low hip roof; and two end chimneys. The elliptical fanlight and sidelights around the door appear to be original, though the doorway itself has probably been moved forward and the columns and portico added at a later date.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.)

Despite the fact that this house has "1775" written on one chimney and is known as the "1775 House" (a holdover from the days when it was a restaurant by that name), all other evidence indicates that it was built in the early Federal period. Photos taken in the 1890s and 1923 show that the original house had brick ends. The 1890s photo indicates that at that time the rear addition was one-and-a-half stories with a lean-to roof; by 1923 this addition was two-storied and flat-roofed as it is now. In 1923 the original house and the rear addition had a Federal frieze trim and the addition had balustrade around the roof; both are now gone. Since 1923 many more additions have been made to the building to accommodate its use first as a restaurant and now as a nursery school: one-story wings on both ends of the house and an ell on the rear addition. Most of the additions are on fieldstone foundations while the original house is on granite.

This house, which is on the 1830 map, belonged to David Wellington (1771-1860), a distant cousin of the Wellingtons in the homestead on Concord Avenue (see 177 Concord Avenue form). David Wellington was married in 1805, which suggests a possible date for the construction of this house. He was known as "Captain David," was a tanner as well as a farmer, and served as deacon of the First and Follen churches. In 1876 the house was owned by F. Wellington, presumably David's son Francis (1815-1881), the 1889 map does not indicate an owner, and in 1906 it was owned by the Bartletts, who were farmers. In 1936 the house became the 1775 House restaurant and in 1965 the Lexington Montessori School.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (name of publication, author, date and publisher)

Hudson, Charles. History of the Town of Lexington II, p. 737. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1913.

Lexington Historical Society Archives -- photo collection, Burr Church collection.

Smith, A. Bradford. "Kite End" (1891). Proceedings of the Lexington Historical Society II (1900):122.

Worthen, Edwin B. A Calendar History of Lexington, Massachusetts, 1620-1946, p. 128. Lexington, Massachusetts: Lexington Savings Bank, 1946.

1830 map

1876 map

1889 map

1906 map

1906 Directory